



Ever the driven consummate diplomat, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Ambassador Richard Holbrooke's final words before his fateful surgery last year were said to be something to the effect of "You've got to stop this war in Afghanistan!" I am not sure how true that was, but it rings loud in my world because Afghanistan is my next assignment. I am not so sure we will end the war, but I will certainly do my best to work on the soft power side and to improve the livelihood of Afghans and the governance of that country. India is part of the story too. India is working to help stabilize Afghanistan and is offering up over one billion U.S. dollars in aid. I hope to see India in action and maybe partner with them while I am working there. India's new role is exciting and a great example of the new "emerged" India, a bigger player in world affairs.



Addressing audience at Hard Rock Café in Mumbai after the live telecast of the U.S. presidential elections on November 5, 2008.



Interacting with students of the USG-sponsored English Access Microscholarship Program in Ahmedabad on January 13, 2011.

I am sad to think that I am wrapping up almost three years in India. I do love the cultures and peoples of the subcontinent, not to mention the great food! I probably put on four kilos while here. As many of you know, I spent part of my childhood in India so returning here has been a special event for me. It has been exciting to take a decade's long view of the positive changes in the country. I remember a country that was mired in poverty and not sure of its own identity and place in the world in the 1960s and 1970s. Now, in the year 2011, so many years later, I leave an India sure of itself and a people excitingly looking forward to the future. What has really inspired me has been to see the living standard improvements that have occurred in the lives of so many people. While poverty is still an issue, I also see massive changes and lots of new people moving into middle-class lifestyles.



With basketball enthusiasts, NBA all-star George "Ice Man" Gervin and WNBA player Katie Smith in March 2011.

I also see great things happening in the future in U.S.-India relations. When I was a kid in the 1960s and 1970s, there were times when India and the United States seemed to almost be enemies. That is no longer the case. India and the United States share common values of democracy, religious tolerance and open societies. Both India and the United States, taken as "countries" are great ideas that other nations aspire to. As India and the United States continue to expand and develop, our people power connectivity will only grow stronger. How exciting! It's been great to be a part of the new relationship and I look forward to returning one day soon.

*Paul G. Folmsbee*



Ambassador Roemer and Consul General Folmsbee outside the Aga Khan palace with the Pune police on May 12, 2010.



Running in the Mumbai Marathon in support of the American Alumni Association.

### The American Center

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

### H O L I D A Y S

May 30: Memorial Day

## The Evolution of American Newspapers

by B. J. Rudell

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees freedom of the press. One element of the press – the newspaper – has helped define the growth and evolution of the U.S.

**Inauspicious Beginnings:** In 1690, nearly a century before independence, American colonists under British rule published the first edition of a three-page newspaper entitled *Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick*. There was no second edition as the British government shut down the newspaper four days later.

**Rapid Growth:** In 1775, one year before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, there were 31 newspapers in the American colonies. By 1835, 1,200 newspapers dotted the American landscape, as new printing and papermaking technology made newspaper production more cost-effective and the resulting product affordable to more Americans. By 1880, there were more than 11,000 papers nationwide, as the Industrial Revolution had generated even greater efficiencies in production and advanced illustrations that brought stories to life.

**More News, Faster:** Attempting to capitalize on an expanding readership, newspapers sought ways to deliver more news, faster. The telegraph enabled reporters to share information with their editors from across substantial distances; as a result, local papers could report national stories with greater ease. In addition, multiple organizations started banding together to share resources for finding and writing newsworthy stories. The present-day Associated Press (AP) was conceived from such an arrangement in 1848, followed by United Press International (UPI) nearly 60 years later. The ensuing competition between AP and UPI to find news that mattered most was a boon to newspapers and their subscribers, as the quality and timeliness of topical reports increased.

**Technological Implications:** In recent years, the Internet and TV's cable news have adversely impacted newspaper circulation, as readers seek the kind of "real-time" information that printed papers cannot provide. But there is no reason to dismiss newspapers altogether. Their online presence has grown exponentially since the mid-1990s, helping to defray drop-offs in print readership. Some are even implementing web-based methods for funding their operations, such as instituting monthly fees for frequent online readers.

Just as they have in centuries past, 21st-century newspapers are evolving with the times, quickly and affordably producing content that readers want. Whatever form they take, newspapers remain an invaluable resource for educating, inspiring, and entertaining the public.

## A WORD FROM THE CENTER

My assignment in Mumbai as Information Officer, which began in October 2006, ends at the end of this month, but in our ever-connected world, it is never "good-bye," but "see you again," whether it be virtually or in real life. My time in India, as well as that of my family, has been tremendous, thanks to the warm hospitality of the people.

I was lucky to be able to travel to all the states in our consular district as well as beyond. It was such an exciting time to be here. Mumbai hosted the U.S. Secretary of State in July 2009, as well as of course, President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, in November 2010. The U.S.-India relationship is stronger than it has ever been, and it is thanks to the people of both our countries. The smiles and warmth I've experienced in India will stay with me forever.

And as I said, this is not good-bye. With all the social media tools available, I have enjoyed expanding our online presence, and will remain connected to western India. We still have of course, our website ([mumbai.usconsulate.gov](http://mumbai.usconsulate.gov)), but we now also have more than 12,500 fans of our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/amcentermumbai](http://www.facebook.com/amcentermumbai)). I will remain a fan and continue seeing and learning about all the activities of the American Center. We have broadened our online activities so we can engage better and receive more feedback from YOU so please "like" our page and post your comments. Other ways to engage with the American Center online:

- View and download photos on Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/amcentermumbai](http://www.flickr.com/photos/amcentermumbai)
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- Catch our latest @amcentermumbai tweets on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/amcentermumbai](http://www.twitter.com/amcentermumbai)
- And of course our website and Facebook addresses mentioned above.

We are also working on revamping our publications to better suit mutual needs in this technology-friendly environment. Starting July 2011, the American Center Bulletin will only be available online. In order to continue receiving the Bulletin, please e-mail us at [mumbaipublicaffairs@state.gov](mailto:mumbaipublicaffairs@state.gov) to ensure that we have your correct e-mail address.

Again, it's been a pleasure serving you.



Christine Dal Bello  
Former Information Officer





## The Era of Prohibition Discussion led by Janette LeHoux

**Monday, May 16**  
**American Center Auditorium**

**6:00 p.m.**

Speakeasies, Flappers, Gangsters, Jazz and G-men: the era of prohibition conjures up many images in our minds. Janette LeHoux will be discussing the history of "the noble experiment," as prohibition was once known. The discussion will include the lead-up to the passage of the 18th amendment and the factors that led people to support it; the era of prohibition, both in historical context and in popular imagination; and the effects after it was repealed.

**Janette LeHoux** is from Salt Lake City, Utah. Aside from Utah, Janette has lived in Southern California and North Carolina as a student, served in the Peace Corps in Albania, worked and studied in Germany, and Baltimore, Maryland, before joining the Foreign Service in 2009. She has a B.A. in International Relations from Claremont McKenna College and an M.A. in Public Policy from Duke University. She considers herself a history hobbyist, and finds the early twentieth century to be particularly fascinating.

## FROM THE AMERICAN LIBRARY

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## Feature Film Screenings American Center Auditorium

**Fridays - 3:30 and 6:30 p.m.**  
**Saturdays - 2:30 p.m.**

### Saturday, May 7

Writer/director James L. Brooks combines a savage look at TV journalism with a hectic love triangle. William Hurt is the not-too-bright but photogenic news anchor who interests driven producer Holly Hunter and angers veteran correspondent Albert Brooks. Also stars Joan Cusack, Robert Prosky, and Jack Nicholson as the network anchorman.

### Broadcast News (1987, 133 mins)



### Friday, May 13

Young journalist, Stephen Glass, wins over his colleagues at *The New Republic* magazine with his charisma and a series of acclaimed articles. Nobody knows, however, that Glass fabricated many of the stories, until attention from a website writer and an in-house investigation puts Glass' future – and the magazine's – in jeopardy.

### Shattered Glass (2003, 94 mins)



### Saturday, May 21

Engrossing true drama of courage and friendship between a journalist and his translator during the fall of Cambodia at the end of the Vietnam War. Sam Waterston is American reporter Sydney Schanberg, and Oscar-winner Haing S. Ngor is captured Cambodian native Dith Pran. Roland Joffe directs.

### The Killing Fields (1984, 141 mins)



### Friday, May 27

George Clooney costars in this gripping true-life drama about veteran CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow's highly publicized feud with Wisconsin senator Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s. Driven by a commitment to deliver the truth, Murrow and his producer Fred Friendly found themselves leading a charge against McCarthy's fear-mongering communist witch hunts.

### Good Night, and Good Luck (2005, 93 mins)



Admission to American Center programs, restricted to persons over 14, unless otherwise specified, is on a first-come, first-served basis. The auditorium doors will open 30 minutes before the start of the program.



# Announcement!

The American Center's Bulletin  
will be delivered via e-mail only starting

*July 2011.*

To continue receiving the Bulletin,  
please contact us at

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e-mail address.

We look forward to hearing from you!

